

Town of Shandaken

S.A.F.A.R.I. Meeting NOTES

Shandaken Area Flood Assessment and Remediation Initiative

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 10:00am – 12:00pm

Attendance:

Karen Lee, Shandaken CAC Liaison and ChiFAC Member
Leslie Zucker, AWSMP Program Leader, CCEUC
Sally Rodgers, AWSMP Education Program Manager, CCEUC
Max Kelly, AWSMP Stream Educator, CCEUC
Eric Lane, Flood Hazard Mitigation Implementation Program Manager, CWC
Aaron Bennett, Flood Hazard Mitigation Coordinator, NYCDEP
Adam Trescott, NYCDEP Basin Manager (online)
Babs Mansfield, Shandaken Supervisor (online)
Robert Drake, Shandaken Town Board member & Deputy Supervisor (online)
Andy Bicking, Ulster County Department of Environment

Follow-ups

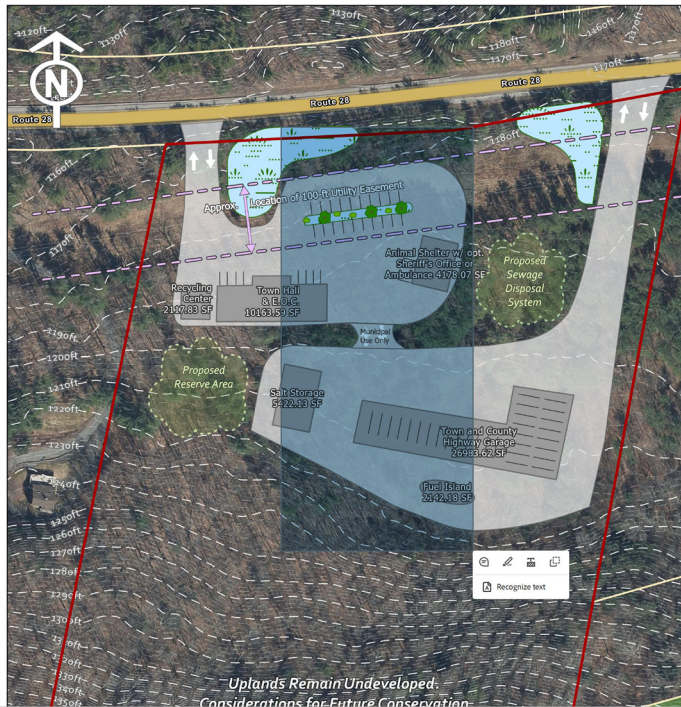
- Max to send Rob AWSMP Scholarship information
- Babs to reach out to Brian Drumm on how to handle discrepancy between DEC and ACOE wetlands.
- Leslie to forward FEMA LOMR calendar invite to town officials
- Rob to contact SLR regarding elevations near Playhouse

Town of Shandaken Floodplain Development

- Rob is now floodplain administrator for the town. His new email will be fpa@shandaken.gov
- Several applications are under review
- Cinder Rd
 - AWSMP may do schedule a site visit with town building department to discuss the stream restoration history at the site.
- A stop work order was administered for a roof replacement near Birch Creek.
- Max will send an email to Rob about scholarship information for floodplain manager certification.

Town Hall & Highway Complex Relocation Updates

- The town originally received a negative declaration for wetlands on the site (SBL 4.20-1-42). UCDOE contacted ACOE who found a large wetland on the site. The site has clay rich soils with lack of vegetation. The good news is that the parcel is actually 25 acres (not 20).
- If the ACOE wetlands are correct, would only be three buildable acres. Three acres would be suitable for highway and county garage but not municipal complex.
- Babs to reach out to Brian Drumm to discuss how to handle this discrepancy



- Above blue square is approximately where the ACOE wetlands are delineated.
- The Overlook news is interested in this project. Overlook reached out to CWC and Shandaken.
- Any Bicking is the current County lead on the project. Andy will coordinate with County Planning on aspects of the project.

Phoenicia Flood Risk Reduction Project(s)

- Jay Street Study application status
 - Jay Street Feasibility Study SOW
 - SOW will address concrete wall on 38 Main St to not impact bridge abutment. Rob Initially thinks that the concrete wall is not essential for the bridge
 - Aaron mentioned that in Hunter, a buyout included a bridge on the property. Early identification of potential roadblocks will be helpful. This SOW will include real estate due diligence.
 - AB will coordinate with DEP for property survey
 - Rob mentioned that in Vermont, a town has a vertical pole with heights of previous floods and an interpretive panel on flood history. This could be a potential E&O SMIP project to pursue.
 - Phase two of project will involve outreaching the study results.
 - SOW will document how a sewer system would impact the project.
 - The group had a brief discussion regarding if LFAs or similar projects mention potential acquisition parcels in vicinity to certain projects.
 - Andy states that it could be interesting to save that information for planning purposes but not the open market (to prevent price increases). Separate communication but not in report.
 - Andy mentioned that “regional interest” is better than “property interest” for public perception. Andy also mentions that Land Trusts might have specific needs for operational practices needed.
 - Babs and Robert are more inclined to door knock and have personal conversations with land owners.
 - 3 South Street property owners went to AWSMP presentation and were open minded about flooding since were not here for flooding. Other property owners are open minded about projects.
- Bridge Street Bridge
 - County may have selected a consultant (Stantec?) to advance BSB designs

- District holds funding for a flood mitigation project in Phoenicia. Not necessarily dedicated to BSB. Restricted to implementing a recommended flood mitigation project in Phoenicia. Andrew is aware of that funding. Intent for funding is floodplain enhancement with BSB. Unsure if funding can be used for in-kind replacement with floodplain enhancement.
 - Completing the loop for water line would not be eligible WQ improvement funding.
- The group discussed local interest in a pedestrian bridge
 - Pedestrian bridge is a “big no” from local businesses. Rob reports that businesses view BSB entrance to town is essential for business.
 - Rob indicated that lower high street is not a potential alternative entrance since it is too narrow.
 - A drawing of a spectacular pedestrian bridge that would be a draw would be interesting and may be more engaging to residents
 - Could be a SMIP grant for landscape architect
 - Rober mentioned that his view is that in public venues may be more effective to advocate for largest and most flood protection bridge.
 - Bridge Street Bridge serves more purposes than just business traffic.

NYC-Funded Flood Buy Outs

- 38 Main Street
 - Town has the contract. Babs to sign, Babs to send to Marlana, then goes to city processes to become acquired (deeding).
 - Rough timeline: Closing summer 2027 (could be longer since tenants live there and DEP does not kick out tenants), Demo 2028.
 - Initial research by DEP did not find any significant issues/discrepancies with surveys.
 - DEP can share information leading up to closing to inform Jay Street study
- Firelight (570 plank rd)
 - Town has passed a resolution to include the uplands. Then town needs to get a contract from the city.
- 27 Station Rd
 - Still with the county attorney office. Ultimately the property is intended to come into town possession.
 - County accepted the offer but there are legal issues around road
 - Andy will look into this on the county side of things.

FEMA-Initiated LOMR Update

- Next Meeting on July 24 at 10am to talk about the outreach process.

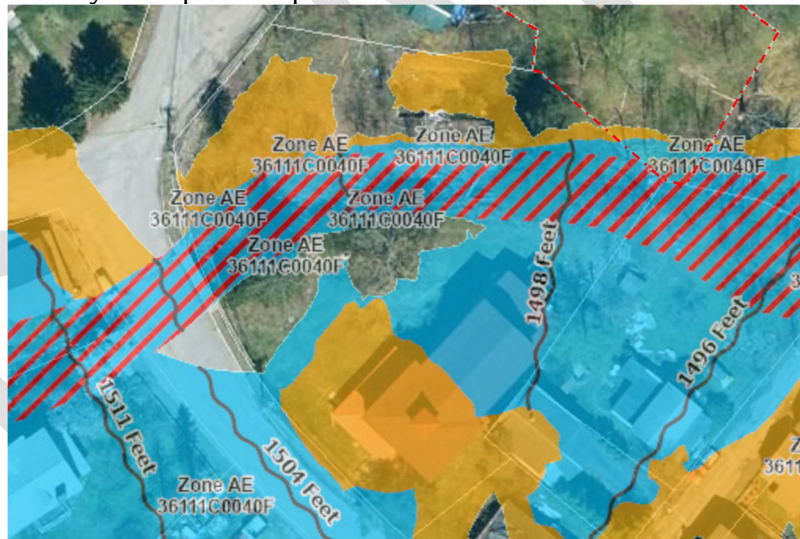
Comprehensive Plan

- Babs updated that there are a handful of areas that are developable areas outside of floodplains.
 - There was a brief discussion regarding floating zones.
- Babs to forward latest draft to AWSMP

Partner Updates

- **AWSMP**
 - Chichester LFA – FAC met two weeks ago to talk about existing conditions model. July 22 is the next meeting
 - DOT coordination – AWSMP Looking for a date in August. SLR to present Chichester LFA initial findings, Higher up at DOT is aware of this conversation. There will be some discussion on Main Street Bridge.
 - Initial Chichester LFA results indicate that 214 bridge near Ox Clove may be the largest impact project.
 - AWSMP also meeting at DOT in Lanesville, thinking about modifying the road right near the county line.
 - Bonnie View Avuene, 60% design report soon. The town could go to construction next year if resilient NY funding is in place

- Working on stormwater culverts. Plans to be wrapped up by mid/late august. Leslie to talk with Eric.H about landowner outreach. Leslie to coordinate with BT to make sure CSBI is aware of project updates.
 - SMIP funding round just closed. Received Shandaken application for CRS. Next funding round will be due in October.
 - E&O Updates
 - Early September Municipal Official Training “Understanding Floodways – and How to Explain Them”
 - September 24, SEQR workshop, opportunity to have dialogue about SEQR process (Planning and ZBA to be invited)
 - Sally is attending a LULA training in October.
 - BSH – construction to begin next week. Additional Truck traffic coming down 42.
 - There was a short discussion regarding how Heidi made LFAs eligible for resilient NY funding. AWSMP to mimic Heidis process.
- Ulster County
 - Ulster County to host a Hazardous Weather and Flood Preparedness Training (G271) August 26-28. [Link](#)
 - Ulster County DOE working to fill position previously held by Heidi. Position to be posted by the end of summer and filled in 2027.
 - UCDOE assembling a community and climate action plan. Focus on material management and MS4. Draft will be available this fall.
- CWC
 - Received application for design/construction for flood protection at the Wellington (310 Main Street).
 - There is potentially an anomaly on flood maps. Town FPA is working through wet and dry flood proof requests.



- - Phoenicia Playhouse – approved funding for protection feasibility study. Rob to contact SLR to consult with Adam Doan about Elevations
- NYCDEP –
 - HTB is getting final permits (shovel ready for next year or late this year)
 - DEP is offering an FBO refresher (sept 23) in Arkville/hybrid. Goal is to become re-acquainted with process for FBO. Local officials are invited. AWSMP to pass on invitation.
- **NEXT SAFARI**
 - **August 11!**
 - **September 8 SAFARI** - Will be hosting NOAA to present on Dynamic Flood Inundation Mapping, National Water Model, and NOAA alerts.